13 Spain vol. 1.

A

NEW ACCOUNT

OF THE

Inhabitants, Trade, and Government

OF

SPAIN.

CONTAINING

I. A conciſe View of its Soil, Produce, and Manufactures; and of the Number, Genius, and Temper of its Inhabitants.

II. The ſeveral Branches of their Trade, the Management of their Affairs in India, the Strength and Power of their Army and Navy, and the different Taxes and Revenues by which they are enabled to carry on a War.

III. An Account of its Conſtitution, and the moſt remarkable Revolutions that have happened in it; particularly, the Paſſing of the Crown from the Houſe of AUSTRIA into that of BOURBON; the Conſequences of this Alteration, and the Preſent State, Maxims of Government, true Intereſt, and political Connections of that Kingdom, eſpecially with the Crown of Great Britain.

To which is added,

A Deſcription of the principal Sea-Port Towns in SPAIN, with the Soundings of their Harbours, and Strength of their Fortifications.

Taken from the beſt Authorities.

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MDCCLXII.

A SHORT DESCRIPTION OF SPAIN.

CHAP. I.

Containing a ſummary account of its air, climate, produce, manufactories, trade, the number, genius, and temper of its inhabitants.

THE kingdom of Spain is bounded by the Mediterranean Sea on the Eaſt, and ſeparated from France by the Pyrenian mountains. It is limited on the North by that part of the Atlantic ocean, known by the name of the bay of Biſcay.

On the Weſt it is bounded by the kingdom of Portugal and the Weſtern Ocean; and on the South by the Straits and ſea of Gibraltar.

It is generally computed to be about ſeven hundred miles in length, and about five hundred in breadth; but it is conſiderably narrower in the ſouthern parts of the country.

3

The air of Spain is generally pure and dry; but for three months of the year it is inſufferably hot through the day, and in the night a traveller ſhivers with cold. It ſeldom rains; and the froſt is ſcarce ever ſo intenſe as to bind up the ground. There is, at certain ſeaſons, a cold wind, that comes from the mountains of Galicia, which is very pernicious to the health of the inhabitants, as well as ſtrangers, unleſs guarded againſt with the greateſt care.

This kingdom produces very little corn, which cauſes often a great ſcarcity among the inhabitants, ariſing entirely from their indolence and neglect of tillage.

It produces, however, vaſt quantities of the fineſt fruits of all ſorts, ſuch as lemons, oranges, olives, figs, grapes, almonds, &c. likewiſe ſome ſilk, fine wool, flax, cotton, ſteel, copper, lead, quickſilver, &c. But of all its produce the wine is the principal, which is much eſteemed over all Europe, for its richneſs and excellent flavour.

Their manufactories are very inconſiderable; the certain conſequence of their indolence and inactivity, which obliges them to buy the greateſt part of the goods they export to their colonies, of England, France, Italy, and Holland. There are very few of the Spaniards bred to any handicraft buſineſs, thinking it altogether derogatory to their

their honour to work at any trade whatſoever. By this means they are not only obliged to purchaſe of foreigners the goods they export, but likewiſe thoſe things they themſelves ſtand in need of: and in their large towns, almoſt all the handicrafts are French and other foreigners. There has been, nevertheleſs, ſeveral attempts of late years to eſtabliſh manufactories of different ſorts, but with what ſucceſs time only muſt determine.

The traffic of the Spaniards is principally with their own colonies in America, of which they are exceeding jealous, and never allow any other power to ſend their ſhips thither. This trade, did the Spaniards manufacture the goods they export, would turn out the moſt profitable that any country could enjoy. But as they are obliged to buy them of foreigners, they thereby deprive themſelves of all theſe advantages. The profits of this trade, however, according to its preſent ſtate, are very great, notwithſtanding foreigners have a very large ſhare therein.

Spain is far from being a populous country; its inhabitants are computed to amount to no more than ſeven millions and a half, though it is capable of ſupporting twice that number, if the land were cultivated, the manufactures encouraged, and its mines

properly worked. In the time of the Goths and Moors, it contained between twenty and thirty millions of people. Several reaſons may be given for the vaſt decreaſe of inhabitants ſince that time, the principal of which are the expulſion of the Moors; the vaſt number of its inhabitants who have gone to Mexico, Peru, and all their other colonies, and the almoſt total want of manufactories.—Another great cauſe of the thinneſs of inhabitants in this country are the monaſteries; by which no leſs than two hundred thouſand perſons are reſtrained from propagating their ſpecies.—The manner too in which the Spaniards generally live contributes not a little to their infecundity, particularly in the uſe of pepper and other ſpices.—The conſequence of Spain being ſo deſtitute of inhabitants is the moſt wretched poverty amongſt the body of the people, although they live in a country, which, beſides its natural advantages, has prodigious ſums poured into it every year from America, to the amount of upwards of five millions four hundred and ſixteen thouſand pounds ſterling in real money.—But the greateſt part of this they are obliged to ſend out of the country to purchaſe corn and foreign commodities.

The Spaniards are not wanting in genius; though learning has flouriſhed very little amongſt

mongſt them, being always diſcouraged by the clergy. They are, in general, people of a good deal of wit, and no deſpicable judgment, which, though ſlow, is generally ſure.

They poſſeſs ſecrecy, conſtancy, and patience in adverſity, to a great degree; but, on the other hand, they are haughty, proud, and imperious; add to theſe indolence and ſloth, which complete the national character.

CHAP. II.

An account of the military and naval power of Spain, *and a ſhort hiſtory of their taxes, duties, and other revenues, by which they are enabled to carry on a war.*

THE Spaniſh land forces conſiſted of ninety-ſix thouſand five hundred and ninety-ſeven men ſome time ago; but they have been of late conſiderably encreaſed.—The kingdom is likewiſe well defended on all ſides.—On the ſide of France it has a ſecure fence in the Pyrenian mountains; the ſea coaſts, beſides forty-five towns are lined with redoubts, forts, and towers, and were an army to venture far up the country, they would be put to great

great inconveniences, particularly the horſe, for want of neceſſary forage.

The ſtrength of Spain conſiſts more in its navy than its army. In time of peace their navy is principally employed in the protection of their American trade, clearing their coaſts of the Barbary corſairs and other pirates, and occaſionally in tranſporting troops to America. It is alſo very well provided with ſeveral ſorts of naval ſtores. Arragon, Navarre, Catalonia, and the North Coaſt produce good timber; Biſcay and other parts abound in iron. At Lierganes and Cerada, not far from St. Andero, are founderies for cannon, anchors, &c. and for bombs, granadoes, and all kinds of bullets, at Fugui, Azura, and Iturbiera. Powder is alſo made at ſeveral places; and Placentia in Guipuzcoa, and Valencia, are famous for all ſorts of arms; as Puerto Real, which is not far from Cadiz, is for excellent cordage. Cada in Galicia makes both cordage and canvas, being ſupplied with hemp from Granada, Murcia, and Valencia, but not in a ſufficient quantity for the demand: whence foreigners ſtill have the advantage of ſupplying them with moſt of their canvas and cordage.—Tar and pitch are made in ſeveral parts of Catalonia and Arragon. The Spaniſh ſettlements in America have alſo very good

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ſhip timber, pitch, and tar; for which reaſon it would be more advantageous for them to build the greater part of their ſhips at the Havannah; beſides, the American wood is more durable than that of Europe.

The Spaniſh navy received a ſevere blow under Philip II. and from that time continued declining till after the peace of Utrecht, when Philip V. was very intent upon reſtoring it. In the year 1759, it was in as formidable a ſtate as it had been for ſeveral years before, and conſiſted of the following ſhips of the line, frigates, bomb-ketches, &c.

A LIST of the SPANISH NAVY, as it ſtood in 1759.

	Guns.		Guns.
El Phœnix,	of 80	El Brillante,	68
El Rayo,	80	El Glorioſo,	68
La Rayna,	70	El Guerriero,	68
El Tygre,	70	El Vencedor,	68
La Galicia,	70	El Soberano,	68
El Infanto,	70	El Hector,	68
La Princeſſa,	70	El Gallardo,	68
El San Philippe	70	El Magnanimo,	68
El Oriente,	68	El Dichoſo,	68
El Levia,	68	El Diligente,	68
El Aquillon,	68	El Triumphante,	68
El Neptuno,	68	El Monarcho,	68

El

	Guns.		Guns.
El Serio,	68	La Juno,	26
El Arogante,	68	La Eſtrea,	26
El Superbe,	68	La Ventura,	26
El Poderoſo,	68	La Venus,	26
El Contente,	68	La Induſtria,	26
El Hercules,	68	La Liebre,	26
El Principe,	68	La Venganza,	24
El Victorioſo,	68	La Victoria,	24
El Terrible,	68	La Ermiona,	24
El Atlante,	68	Galgo,	22
Africa,	68	La Dorado,	22
El Firme,	68	La Perla,	22
El Aquiles,	68	La Aquila,	22
La Eſpana,	62	La Frecha,	22
Ferdinando,	60	El Gazutta,	22
Aſia,	60	El Catalan,	22
El Septentrion,	60	El Ibicineo,	22
El America,	60	La Flora,	20
El Dragon,	60	El Diligence,	—
La Europe,	60	El Jaſon,	20
La Caſtilla,	60	La Conception,	20
El Campion,	58	El Gabilan,	20
El Tridente,	58	Gilano Xebeck,	18
El Conqueſtador,	58	El Mercurio,	18
El Atſtuto,	58	El Jupiter,	18
El Fuerte,	50	El Voſante,	18
Adventurero,	30	El Cuſador,	18
Andaluzia,	30	Mars Sloop,	16
La Eſmeraldo,	30	La Liebre,	16
La Palas,	26	El Galgo,	16

	Guns.		Guns.
El Majorquin,	16	*Fire Ships.*	
Bomb Ketches.		El Valenciano,	14
El Eſterope,	16	El Trueno,	
El Bronſe,	16	El Belampago,	
El Pieramonte,	16	El Rayo,	
Bl Bulcano,	16		

San Ferdinando, pierced for 60 guns, ſerves as a hulk at Cadiz.

Addition made to the Spaniſh navy in 1760.

El Monarco,	86	El Vigorozo,	74
La Nuova Princeſſa,	84	El Gujon,	70
		El Diamante,	64
El Elephante,	76	El St. Geronimo,	60

Recapitulation of the above liſt.

One ſhip of	86	Three	30
One	84	Seven	26
Two	80	Three	24
One	76	Eight	22
One	74	Five	20
Seven	70	Five	18
Twenty-nine	68	Four	16
One	64	*Bomb Ketches.*	
One	62	Four	16
Eight	60	One	14
Four	58	Three fire ſhips.	
One	50		

And the hulk at Cadiz, making in all 101 ſail

The revenues of the Spaniſh government conſiſt chiefly of the fifths of all the riches which come from America, and which generally comes home once a year in a large fleet, known by the name of the Flota: but they very ſeldom bring home their treaſure in this manner, when they are engaged in a war with any maritime power; for they do not chuſe to venture the loſs of ſo large a quantity, but rather endeavour to bring it home by ſtealth in ſingle ſhips. Beſides this, they have the uſual inward reſources to ſupply the exigency of their government, the principal of which are as follows:

The alcalva, or a tenth of every thing ſold; the exciſe on wine, oil, tallow, ſoap, paper, ſalt fiſh, &c. beſides the duties on all ſorts of goods exported or imported, or carried from one province to another, and on all goods brought into Madrid; the uſual aid of 411176 crowns, raiſed upon all under the rank of nobility; the wine gage money; the ſtamp duties, and the half annates; the poſt-office; the regulations of the crown of Arragon, and the croſs bull, by virtue of which the clergy and laity are obliged to pay a contribution towards carrying on a war with the infidels, even when no ſuch thing is in agitation; licences for eating butter, cheeſe, &c. in lent; the ſubſidies

ſidies and tythes of church and abbey lands; the taxes on downs, commons, and other paſtures; the tenths and patrimonial rents of Catalonia, Arragon, Valencia, and Majorca; the eccleſiaſtical payments for the military hoſpitals; the exciſe at Navarre; the quickſilver; the coinage, &c. &c. all which, with ſeveral others leſs important, produce an annual revenue of between ſeven and eight millions ſterling.

The colonies which the Spaniards are now in poſſeſſion of in the different parts of the world, are

1ſt. In Africa; the towns of Oran, Ceuta, and Maſalquivir, on the coaſt of Barbary; and the Canary iſlands in the Atlantic Ocean.

2d. In Aſia; the iſlands of St. Lazarus, the Philipines, and Ladrones.

3d. The greateſt part of South America, viz. Peru, Paraguya, Tucumannia, with the land of Magellan and Chili.

4th. In North America; Mexico, New Mexico, California, part of Florida, and the iſland of Cuba; part of Hiſpaniola, Porto Rico, the Caribbee Iſlands, Trinidad, Margaritha, Roca, Orchilla, Blanca, and Lucayan.

CHAP. III.

An account of the conſtitution of Spain, and the paſſing of that crown from the houſe of Auſtria into the family of Bourbon; the conſequence of this alteration, and the preſent ſtate, maxims of government, true intereſt, political connections and views of that kingdom, in regard to the powers with which ſhe is likely to be engaged in war.

THE conſtitution of the kingdom of Spain is, at preſent, an abſolute hereditary monarchy, where the females ſucceed in default of the male line; but the king ſeems to be inveſted with the power to diſpoſe of his crown to any particular branch of the royal family, of which we had an inſtance in Charles II. beſtowing his dominions upon the duke of Anjou, grandſon of Lewis XIV.

But notwithſtanding the king be an abſolute monarch, he ſeldom tranſacts any matter of importance without the advice of the ſeveral councils, eſtabliſhed for the management of the reſpective branches in their department: of theſe,

1ſt. The cabinet council conſiſts of the principal ſecretaries of ſtate, and a few more appointed by the king, who finally determine matters relating to the government.

2dly,

2dly. The privy council, which conſiſts of a great body, who prepare matters for the inſpection of the cabinet.

3dly. The council of war.

4thly. The council of Caſtile, which is the higheſt court of judicature in the kingdom, for cauſes either civil or criminal, and receives appeals from all the inferior courts of the nation.

5thly. The ſeven courts of royal audience, viz. of Gallicia, Seville, Majorca, the Canaries, Saragoſſa, Valencia, and Barcelona. Theſe, firſt of all, take cognizance of every cauſe within five leagues of their reſpective capitals; and alſo (by way of appeal) of all cauſes removed from inferior courts within their reſpective juriſdictions.

There is likewiſe a ſupreme court for the management of all affairs relative to India, conſiſting chiefly of governors and other officers who formerly held ſome great poſt in America.

Beſides theſe there are councils, or boards, appointed for the management of the royal revenue, and ſeveral other branches of buſineſs relative to the crown.

The kings of Spain uſed formerly to enumerate, in a pompous manner, all the kingdoms and provinces of which they were poſſeſſed; but they are at preſent contented

tented with the title of his Catholic Majeſty, in which all the others are now comprehended.

On the inauguration of a new monarch, he is proclaimed and receives homage from the ſtates; but the unction and coronation have been diſuſed for ſome centuries paſt.

The eldeſt ſon of the king is ſtiled the prince of Aſturias; the younger ſons are ſtiled infants, and the daughters infantas.

To be in any meaſure acquainted with the ſtate of politics at the court of Spain, or the preſent maxims of their government, it will be neceſſary to take a retroſpect of the affairs of that kingdom from the beginning of the preſent century.

Charles the IId. king of Spain, being in a declining ſtate of health, made his will, by which he left the crown of Spain to Philip, Duke of Anjou, ſecond ſon of the Dauphin of France, and grandſon to Lewis XIV. and dying ſoon after, in the year 1700, the king of France prepared to maintain his grandſon in the poſſeſſion of that crown, which he foreſaw would be diſputed by the houſe of Auſtria and its allies. He called, indeed, for form ſake, a great council to determine whether he ſhould accept the will of the deceaſed king; but from the previous diſpoſition on the frontiers of Spain and the Low Countries,

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it evidently appeared, he had long before determined what part to act.

Yet it was not till this council had decided in favour of the will, that he acknowledged his grandson as the heir of the Spanish monarchy, gave him the title of Philip the Vth, or consented to his going into Spain. It must be confessed his measures were well concerted, and that the new king came into the full possession of the Spanish dominions, in a manner that must be no less surprising to posterity, than it was to all Europe at the time it happened. But it must be allowed, on the other hand, that this was, in a great measure, owing to the untractable dispositon of the court of Vienna, where they looked upon the succession to the Spanish monarchy as a thing so certain, that they would never consent to any proposals made by their allies, for opposing in time the schemes of the house of Bourbon.

The maritime powers were by this means put under the greatest difficulties; the Elector of Bavaria admitted the French troops into the Netherlands, of which he was governor; and the prince of Vaudemont declared for Philip in Italy. It was this determined both England and Holland to dissemble for the present, and in the mean time to acknowledge Philip king of

Spain; and even to write him letters of felicitation upon his acceſſion, notwithſtanding they were determined at that very time to diſpute his title to that crown.

To relate the hiſtory of a war, in which all Europe was embroiled by the acceſſion of Philip the Vth, would exceed the limits of this eſſay; nor indeed would it be at all neceſſary. We ſhall therefore content ourſelves with obſerving, that when the grand alliance was firſt formed, there was nothing farther propoſed than the obtaining a proper barrier for the Dutch, and a reaſonable equivalent for the houſe of Auſtria.

But after the Arch-duke Charles had aſſumed the title of King of Spain, and the prodigious ſucceſſes of the allies in the beginning of the war had raiſed their ſpirit and hopes, they now projected no leſs than the entire conqueſt of the Spaniſh monarchy; and after the battle of Turin, by which the French and Spaniards were obliged to evacuate Italy, there is ſcarce any doubt that they might have ſucceeded in their deſign, as, by the aſſiſtance of the Portugueſe, they were become maſters of a great part of Spain, and even of the capital itſelf; the Auſtrian party in that kingdom having done as much as, all things conſidered, could be expected from them.

But

But no care being taken in the autumn of 1706, to ſend over proper reinforcements to the aſſiſtance of king Charles, Philip began to recover ſtrength; and in April, 1707, the Duke of Berwick, who commanded his forces, obtained ſo complete a victory at Almanza, and purſued it with ſo much ſpirit and diligence, that before the end of the year, the face of affairs was entirely changed in that kingdom.

It is indeed true, that after this the allies made conſiderable progreſs, and in the month of Auguſt, 1710, gained the battle of Saragoſſa, which opened a paſſage for Charles the IIId. to Madrid, into which city he made his public entry in the middle of the following month; but the diſpoſitions of the Spaniards were now changed, and they adhered ſo firmly to king Philip, that, after the cloſe of that year, King Charles was again, after loſing a battle, driven back into Catalonia.

In the month of April, 1711, died the emperor Joſeph, and thereby left King Charles the IIId. ſole heir male, of the Houſe of Auſtria, which extremely changed the ſtate of affairs, becauſe it appeared now equally dangerous to give the Spaniſh, as well as Imperial dominions to this prince, or to leave them to a branch of the Houſe of Bourbon; and there remained

no expedient that could be thought of to prevent the one or other of these events.

The House of Austria was at that time in possession of the Spanish Netherlands, and all the dominions that had belonged to that crown on the continent of Italy, which gave an opportunity to the French court to insinuate to the new ministry in England, the necessity, as well as expediency, of putting an end to so long a war, upon terms agreeable to the first scheme of the grand alliance; and this in the end brought on the peace of Utrecht, which was concluded in 1713.

By this treaty King Philip yielded to Great Britain the town and castle of Gibraltar, and the island of Minorca for ever; the kingdom of Naples, the dutchy of Milan, and the rest of the Spanish dominions in Italy, together with the island of Sardinia and the Low Countries, to the Emperor, Charles the VIth; and the island of Sicily, with the title of King, to the Duke of Savoy.

It must be allowed that the treaty of Utrecht was liable to great exceptions; but, however, the end of the great alliance was, in some measure, answered by it. The crowns of France and Spain were divided, the power of the house of Austria considerably augmented, and the balance

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of power in Europe in ſome meaſure ſettled. But, notwithſtanding, this King Philip was not left in quiet poſſeſſion of his dominions, to which the emperor ſtill kept up his claim; and the principality of Catalonia, and the iſland of Majorca, tho' evacuated by the Auſtrian troops, refuſed to ſubmit, and were not reduced without a great deal of trouble and much effuſion of blood; ſo that the force of Spain ſeemed, at the concluſion of this war, exhauſted to ſuch a degree, that there was not much to be feared from her, notwithſtanding her being left in poſſeſſion of a prince of the Houſe of Bourbon.

It was the policy of Lewis XIV. to match both his grandſons, the Dukes of Burgundy and Anjou, into the Houſe of Savoy; and although, in the firſt inſtance, his policy ſeemed to be diſappointed, ſince the Duke of Savoy took part with the allies throughout the whole war, yet his daughter, the Queen of Spain, by her engaging behaviour, acquired the affection of the Spaniſh nobility, and thereby contributed not a little to maintain her conſort on the throne.

She died the 14th of February, 1714, and left behind her two ſons; Don Lewis, born in 1707, who became king of Spain by the reſignation of his father; and Don

Ferdinand, born 23d of September 1713, the late king of Spain. By her deceaſe, Philip was left at liberty to ſtrengthen his intereſt by a ſecond marriage, which he concluded in a few months, with the princeſs Elizabeth Farneſe, daughter of the duke of Parma, and heireſs not only of that dutchy, but alſo expectant heireſs of Tuſcany; which marriage was contracted with a view to revive the intereſt of the houſe of Bourbon in Italy, which had been in a manner extinguiſhed by the late peace.

The new Queen brought her father's miniſter into power, who was afterwards well known by the title of cardinal Alberoni. This man, who muſt be allowed a great genius, projected the revival of the Spaniſh power, and the recovery of the Italian dominions, at a time when the former was thought very difficult, and the latter appeared totally impracticable.

It is true, that he did not abſolutely ſucceed in this ſcheme, but it is no leſs true, that he came nearer to it than any body could have imagined; for he put the affairs of Spain into ſuch order, that ſhe had fleets and armies capable of alarming her neighbours, with which he actually obtained poſſeſſion of Sardinia, and would have recovered Sicily, if the naval power

of

of Britain had not interpoſed, and given ſuch a blow at Meſſina to his Catholick Majeſty's maritime forces, as ruined all his ſchemes at once; and, which was ſtill more, obliged his maſter to part with him, and to accede to the quadruple alliance, which was ſet on foot to ſupply the defects of the treaty of Utrecht, and to fix the tranquility of Europe upon a more ſolid baſis.

By this alliance, Sardinia was given to the Duke of Savoy inſtead of Sicily; but at the ſame time, it was agreed that Don Carlos, his Catholick Majeſty's firſt born ſon by his ſecond wife, ſhould ſucceed to Parma and Tuſcany. In 1721, a marriage was concluded between the French king Lewis XV. and the Infanta of Spain, which however did not take effect; but another concluded at the ſame time did, whereby Lewis, Prince of the Aſturias, eſpouſed the fourth daughter of the duke of Orleans, regent of France. Upon the death of this laſt mentioned prince, it is believed that his Catholick Majeſty entertained ſome hopes of returning into France, and aſſuming the government of that kingdom in the name of his nephew; but whatever his motive was, on the 15th of January 1724, he actually reſigned the kingdom to his ſon Don Lewis, Prince of

Aſturias

Aſturias; who is allowed to have been poſſeſſed of as great abilities as could be expected in one of his years, whoſe manners as well as birth endeared him to the Spaniards; and who, in the beginning of his adminiſtration, gave great hopes of proving a wiſe and beneficent prince. But, on the 30th of Auguſt following, he died in the eighteenth year of his age, to the inexpreſſible grief of his father as well as of his ſubjects.

Upon the demiſe of Don Lewis, it was judged that in the natural courſe of things, his brother Don Ferdinand, ſhould have ſucceeded him in the throne; but the fear of minority, and perhaps ſome other reaſons, induced the Spaniards to prevail upon Philip V. to reſume the government, which he did, but with reluctancy; whether real or feigned is hard to determine.

He applied himſelf very cloſely to buſineſs, and being extremely provoked at the ſending back of the Infanta from France, he began to meditate new and ſtrange deſigns; or rather ſuch were infuſed into his mind by the Queen and his miniſters. It is generally believed, and not without good grounds, that Cardinal Alberoni, who was then at Rome, contrived that amazing ſcene which alarmed all Europe: at leaſt it is certain, that it

was managed and tranſacted by one of his creatures; a man born to make a figure in unquiet times, and who, as he deſerted the ſervice of his country, no other prince ought to have relied on.

This was the famous Ripperda, who negociated the treaty of Vienna, by which the Emperor Charles VI. and King Philip, in whoſe quarrel ſuch rivers of blood have been ſhed, and ſuch immenſe treaſures expended, entered into a cloſe alliance for the mutual ſupport of each other's intereſt, againſt thoſe very perſons who had ſacrificed ſo much for the aggrandizement of both. The true motives to this ſtrange alliance are by many held to remain ſtill ſecret; but it ſeems to be pretty evident, that the views of the Emperor were immediate, and thoſe of Spain more remote and diſtant.

The former thought that by this means he ſhould eſtabliſh his Oſtend Company, by which he hoped to revive the trade of the Low-Countries, though at the expence of his old friends the Dutch; the latter, conſented to the aggrandizing the Imperial power, from the flattering expectation that Don Carlos, by marrying the eldeſt Arch-Dutcheſs, at preſent Empreſs and Queen of Hungary, would become ſucceſſor of that branch of the Houſe of Auſtria,

Auſtria, as himſelf had been of the other, by which he ſeemed to renounce his engagements with France.

This ſtrange turn was more extraordinary, conſidering the time in which it happened, when both France and the maritime powers, were labouring to bring about in a rational and effectual manner, ſuch an accommodation as theſe Monarchs haſtily, and inconſiderately clapped up, with views only to their private advantage. To ballance this Vienna alliance, France, the maritime powers, and Pruſſia, entered into the famous treaty of Hanover, in order to provide for their own intereſts, which they thought could never be ſafe, while this unnatural conjunction ſubſiſted.

The Emperor and the Catholic king, ſeemed determined to perſiſt in the execution of ſuch ſchemes, from whence they expected to derive ſuch mighty advantages; but the Hanover allies took their meaſures ſo effectually, that they were obliged, after ſome fruitleſs attempts, to ſubmit to the old method of determining all differences by a negociation, which produced the congreſs at Soiſſons.

This congreſs was opened the 14th of July 1728, but to very little purpoſe, except that it ſerved to ſhew the aſcendency which the French miniſter cardinal Fleury had

had gained, by an appearance of probity, and an exterior diſplay of equity and moderation. But this ſituation growing tireſome to the Britiſh nation, their miniſters entered into a ſecret negociation with Spain, ending in the famous treaty of Seville; which it was expected would have determined all differences, and put a period to the labours of the miniſters on both ſides. But this was ſo far from anſwering our ſanguine expectations, that the two next years were taken up in contriving expedients for carrying what was ſtipulated by treaty into execution.

By an article of the treaty of Seville, it was appointed that inſtead of Swiſs, Spaniſh troops ſhould be ſent into Italy, to maintain Don Carlos in the countries that had been yielded to him by different treaties. The Emperor, being grealy alarmed at this article, which endangered the loſs of his Italian dominions, proteſted againſt it; and marched a good body of troops into Italy, to guard againſt this fatal meaſure, whereby the execution of it was ſuſpended for a year or two; but, at length, was brought about, upon the maritime powers guaranteeing to him the poſſeſſion of his Italian dominions. This ſtipulation, it was hoped, would have contributed much, not only to the pacifying theſe troubles,

bles, but ſecuring the peace of Europe for the preſent age at leaſt.

But the ableſt politicians are often miſtaken in their purpoſes: for Auguſtus king of Poland dying in the year 1733, and Staniſlaus, father-in-law to the king of France, being a candidate for that crown, which he had formerly poſſeſſed, and the French king eſpouſing his intereſt, he was oppoſed by the elector of Saxony, ſupported by the united intereſts of Vienna and Ruſſia, who fixed the elector Auguſtus III. upon the throne of Poland; which the French King looking upon as a great injury and affront, made an alliance with Spain and Sardinia, and after invading the German dominions in Italy, carried the war into Germany itſelf.

After ſeveral battles between the allies and the Imperial forces in Italy, the Emperor was driven out of his Italian dominions, except Mantua; and was at laſt compelled to confirm Naples and Sicily to Don Carlos, thereby erecting a third monarchy in the Houſe of Bourbon. This treaty was concluded at Vienna, with which, except France, none of the contracting powers either were or had any reaſon to be ſatisfied.

Upon the death of the emperor Charles VI. the enemies of the houſe of Auſtria, having

having reſolved to employ their utmoſt force to reduce and humble it, the court of Spain entered into this confederacy, and, after ſupporting five unſucceſsful campaigns in Italy, things fell into the moſt deſperate condition. Don Carlos, king of the Two Sicilies, after ſuffering a kind of ſiege in his camp, where he remained to cover his kingdom from an invaſion, was obliged at length to have recourſe to a neutrality; the Infant Don Philip, after riſking a deſperate battle, which, with the hazard of his life, opened him the means of flight, abandoned Italy; and the republic of Genoa, which had eſpouſed the Spaniſh cauſe, was left to the mercy of the Germans, who became maſters even of the capital.

Under theſe misfortunes, and worn out with age, Philip V. departed this life, on the 29th of June, 1746, in the forty-ſixth year of his reign; and Ferdinand VI. mounting the throne, it was generally believed, upon the acceſſion of this monarch, that things would have taken another turn in the court of Spain; and his Catholic majeſty, or at leaſt his miniſters, were at ſome pains to ſupport this opinion, from whence they reaped very conſiderable advantages. This opinion, and the report that the French intereſt was now at an end,

had no other foundation than the openneſs with which the populace expreſſed their reſentment againſt the French nation: but wiſe people ſaw, that no ſuch alteration either could or would happen; and accordingly in the negociation that was carried on for peace, the court of Madrid relied implicitly upon that of Verſailles, which was the more extraordinary as they had all that time a miniſter in London; but it may very well be ſuppoſed, that the nature of his inſtructions was no ſecret to the French miniſters; and at the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, by the influence and ſteadineſs of the French miniſtry, the dutchies of Parma and Placentia and Guaſtalla, were ſettled upon the royal Infant upon as good terms as could reaſonably be expected, confirmed by the moſt authentic acts of the Empreſs-queen and the king of Sardinia, the execution of which was preſſed with equal vigilance and vigour.

As to the article which regarded the differences between the courts of Spain and Great Britain, nothing was regulated thereby, except that the king of Spain agreed to pay to the South Sea company one hundred thouſand pounds; and the company, to prevent any illicit trade, gave up their right of ſending any more an annual galleon. By theſe means his Catho-

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lic majeſty was relieved from an expenſive and deſtructive war, which had continued ſeven years, and in that time had drawn upon his ſubjects inexpreſſible hardſhips; for without reckoning the heavy taxes to which they had been ſubjected, or the vaſt number of ſmall trading ſhips which they loſt in the proſecution of the war, they ſuffered at leaſt twelve millions ſterling loſs in capital prizes and men of war.

Beſides putting an end to this deſtructive ſea-war, the king of Spain had an effectual eſtabliſhment provided for his brother Don Philip, honourable proviſion made for his allies the duke of Modena, and the republic of Genoa, and a way opened to reduce his military expences, and bring the domeſtic concerns of his adminiſtration into order, which, while the war laſted, could not be done. But the chief advantage accruing to Spain from this peace aroſe from its removing the impediments of that vaſt maſs of treaſure which had been collected in the Weſt Indies, of which the Spaniards were in great want, and for which even at that time they were not altogether without fears. Having thus exhibited a ſhort ſketch of the Spaniſh hiſtory, from the acceſſion of the family of Bourbon, at leaſt as far as regards the politics of that court, we

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ſhall next proceed to point out the intereſt of that monarchy, in a manner that will account for the preſent conduct of the Spaniſh miniſters: for if the real intereſt of the nation be thoroughly explained, it will not require much penetration to diſcern whether they are purſued. At the concluſion of the peace of Utrecht, when the title of Philip V. as king of Spain and the Indies, was acknowledged by the high allies, there were two kinds of ſecurities taken for preventing thoſe fatal conſequences, which were to be apprehended from leaving ſuch vaſt dominions in the hands of the younger branch of a family, already become too powerful and too formidable to the reſt of Europe.

The firſt of theſe was the renunciation made by king Philip, and the princes of his family, to the ſucceſſion of the crown of France, in favour of the houſe of Orleans; and the other, the yielding Gibraltar and the iſland of Minorca, to the crown of Great Britain, in the nature of cautionary places or ſecurities, for the performance of what was ſtipulated by that treaty.

This was then held neceſſary on both ſides; for as the allies juſtly dreaded the too cloſe connection of the crowns of France and Spain, ſo the Spaniards themſelves

ſelves were afraid of many inconveniencies reſulting from a dependence upon that crown, and were deſirous of being ſecured againſt it, as very plainly appeared from the readineſs with which they gave theſe renunciations the moſt ſolemn ſanction that it was in their power as a nation to give. It was the intereſt alſo of the royal family, and of all Spain, to have adhered religiouſly to this treaty. It was this that ſecured the dignity of king Philip, and made him truly a king, and not a viceroy: it was this that enabled the miniſtry to ſettle the internal government of the kingdom, and ſecured to the people a more peaceable poſſeſſion of the Indies than they had ever before enjoyed.

But it quickly appeared how little any of the parties were influenced by theſe views, however clear and ſelf-evident they were. The king of Spain was entirely governed by his grandfather as long as he lived; and after his death he turned his views ſo entirely towards his native country, as to act in a manner equally inconſiſtent with the intereſt of his crown, and the treaties by which he had acquired it. His miniſters made no difficulty of falling into his views; and the natural pride and ambition of the Spaniards drew them to wiſh the recovery of their Italian dominions,

nions, though the poſſeſſion had been always rather a burthen than an advantage to their country.

Upon the king's ſecond marriage, theſe inclinations began to diſplay themſelves more fully; and the Spaniards endeavoured to recover Sicily by force of arms, and were alſo inclined to attack Gibraltar. This forced the maritime powers to take ſuch meaſures for deſtroying the naval force of Spain, as could only be juſtified by the neceſſity upon which their meaſures were founded.

By the acceſſion of Spain to the quadruple alliance, a new opportunity was offered of eſtabliſhing her peace and proſperity upon a laſting foundation; and it looked for ſome time as if that had been her intention, but this laſted not long. The Vienna alliance was contracted upon falſe principles; for it tended to deſtroy the balance of power in Europe, and to force Gibraltar and Minorca out of the hands of Great Britain, the poſſeſſion of which by that crown proved the common benefit of all the independent powers of Europe.

From that time the Spaniſh miniſtry followed no ſettled ſcheme, purſuing ſometimes one plan of action, ſometimes another; but they never affected that independency and care of their own concerns,

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which can alone render their people happy at home, and their power reſpected abroad.

From the many wars in which they had been engaged by the ambition of ſome of their princes, and the diſorder attendant upon the inactivity of others, their affairs had been thrown into ſuch diſorder, and the people reduced to ſuch indigence, that it certainly was their intereſt to endeavour at re-peopling their country, recovering their trade, and reſtoring their conſtitution and ancient government. They ought, therefore, to have laid aſide all thoughts of recovering their dominions in Italy, which, on the whole, proved rather burthenſome than advantageous to their country, and have vigorouſly purſued their trade in the Weſt Indies, which would certainly have produced the means of ſetting up uſeful and valuable manufactures at home; and thereby would have brought ſuch immenſe treaſures into Old Spain, as would have enabled them to have recovered all their former loſſes, and to have put every fortreſs in the kingdom, as well as their navy, in a ſtate of defence.

Moreover, if Spain had not been ſo intimately connected with France, her power would not have been the object of envy to the reſt of Europe; and ſhe might have

eaſily eſtabliſhed the younger branches of her family in Italy, without any oppoſition from thoſe powers who acted merely from motives of ſelf-preſervation; but the Spaniſh honour, that is, their humour, muſt be preferred, and have place of every other conſideration.

Spain and the Indies may be conſidered as two great empires under the dominion of one monarch, and the happineſs of both depends upon a reciprocal regard for the welfare of each other. To preſerve her American dominions, and to maintain peace, was certainly the intereſt of Spain, at leaſt till ſuch time as ſhe had recovered ſuch a maritime force, as might enable her to bring home her galleons in ſpite of any foreign force.

It is both reaſonable and neceſſary that the Spaniards ſhould, on the one hand, endeavour to make the moſt of their plantations, and not ſuffer them to fall to ruin and decay; and, on the other hand, that they ſhould fulfil all their engagements, and allow ſome reaſonable advantages to their ancient, natural, and uſeful allies. Theſe maxims, once made the rule of their conduct, their commerce would revive, and of courſe become more extenſive and profitable; their American dominions recover their former luſtre and proſperity,

perity; and the power of Old Spain riſe as high as ever it ſtood in the days of the emperor Charles V.

The differences of Spain with France are now extinguiſhed; and as a prince has reaſon to regard that as an advantage, ſo it is a natural motive to peace and good neighbourhood, to be governed by monarchs of the ſame blood; but at the ſame time a king ought to endeavour, by obtaining the hearts of his ſubjects, to govern them as their own monarch, not as the deputy or ſubſtitute of another prince.

He ought to conſider this as the error chiefly to be guarded againſt in his government; for, without the hearts of his ſubjects, he has little to hope from the good offices of France, when their own intereſt comes in queſtion, as appears by their attempts to trade directly to the South Seas, and to obtain the entire dominion of Hiſpaniola, which, whenever they acquire, the Spaniſh territories in America will be at their mercy.

In reference to Portugal, it is certainly the intereſt of Spain to live well with her, and in the cloſeſt correſpondence poſſible; becauſe, though that power can be no formidable enemy by herſelf, yet, in caſe of any attempt upon Spain, ſhe is able to give her more uneaſineſs than any other poten-

tate, as appeared in the laſt general war, when the allies became maſters of Madrid, principally by means of the Portugueſe.

It muſt indeed be owned, that the ſituation of Portugal is ſuch as muſt tempt an ambitious prince on the throne of Spain to aſpire to the conqueſt of it; and the preſent ſtate of the affairs of Europe ſeems indeed too favourable for the execution of ſuch a deſign.

The face of affairs in Spain has been greatly changed by the acceſſion of the preſent family to the throne, who, without doubt, reaped vaſt advantages from the prodigious efforts made in their favour by the French, who yet made thoſe efforts in favour of a younger branch of their own royal family, and not as the natural or even political allies of the Spaniſh nation.

Before the Spaniſh princes were infected with the ſpirit of univerſal monarchy, we find Ferdinand the Catholic, with an army of fifty thouſand foot and twenty thouſand horſe, laying ſiege to the city of Granada, when that city was under the Moors, and when Arragon refuſed to take any ſhare in the quarrel. This ſhews how powerful Caſtile alone was before the addition of ſo many provinces, and before America was diſco-

diſcovered: yet it would be be very raſh to conclude from thence, that Spain has been brought ſo low barely by acceſſion of territory, and by her ſending colonies to the Weſt Indies. The true inference is this, that vaſt poſſeſſions or immenſe treaſure cannot ſecure a nation from the bad effects of weak and ambitious councils.

In the height of all her grandeur, the Spaniſh territories were ſeparated at a vaſt diſtance from one another: if ſhe had endeavoured to maintain a conſtant peace, no ſingle power would have attempted to have wreſted any of them from her. Inſtead of this, ſhe graſped at all, made war on every ſide, and forced thoſe ſhe injured to make themſelves rich and powerful, by contributing to her ruin. It was the ambition and injuſtice of Spain that raiſed up the maritime powers againſt her, and loſt her alſo many of her dominions, and exhauſted the reſt.

Having ſaid ſo much upon the paſt ſtate and condition of Spain, it remains that we ſhould point out the advantages and diſadvantages that attend its preſent ſtate.

No country in Europe can boaſt of ſo many advantages as Spain in the Eaſt and Weſt Indies, ſhe alone, of all the European powers, poſſeſſing dominions there

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that have a direct and immediate correſpondence with each other. If theſe were properly attended to and improved, ſhe might raiſe her revenues much higher than it is poſſible under their preſent circumſtances for any other power to do.

Beſides theſe advantages abroad, they have alſo others in Europe; for as they have no longer any provinces in Flanders, they are wholly exempt from all the trouble and expence which was entailed upon them by thoſe provinces while in their poſſeſſion. They might alſo be gainers by the change of affairs in Italy, where, as things now ſtand, diſtinct principalities in the hands of deſcendants from the crown of Spain may be as advantageous as provinces annexed to the kingdom, and be ſupported at much leſs expence. Another great advantage is their being free from any apprehenſion on the ſide of France; to which we may add their having it abſolutely in their power to be equally free from danger on the ſide of the houſe of Auſtria; for without allies ſhe cannot make any attempt upon Spain. All theſe advantages are ſo clear, that it is unneceſſary to ſpend any more time upon them. The inconveniencies that Spain labours under are chiefly thoſe ſhe has brought upon herſelf. The firſt is the want of people,

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which is the reaſon that both the inland and foreign trade is in a great meaſure carried on by ſtrangers, of which alſo her armies are chiefly compoſed. Another great inconvenience which reſults from this is the poverty of their country, which is not occaſioned by its barrenneſs, but proceeds from the want of cultivation. A third inconvenience is the exceſſive number and unproportionable wealth of the eccleſiaſtics, ſecular and regular; of which as great bigots as this nation have always been held, they are now become very ſenſible, and would willingly find a remedy for it if they could.

But after all, their capital and moſt dangerous inconvenience is their court's being governed by French counſels; for all men of ſenſe will agree, that there is no curſe can be ſo heavy on a people as to be made tools or beaſts of burden to any other nation. For the firſt twenty years after the acceſſion of Philip, grandſon to the late king of France, Spain was no better than a province to that kingdom; and her condition, for more than twenty years ſince that, has been much worſe; ſhe is become a province to thoſe which ſhe takes to be her own provinces, I mean the Italian dominions; for which ſhe has already paid ten times more than they are worth, and has alſo remained in dependance on France

for the greateſt part of that time. In ſhort, no country in Europe has been ſo oppreſſed, beggared, or abuſed by their princes or miniſters, who, being foreigners themſelves, have always had ſome end in view injurious to the intereſt of the nation.

It may, indeed, be objected, that ſince the concluſion of the late war, the affairs of Spain have greatly altered; her power on the continent is augmented, an immenſe treaſure has poured in from the Indies, and when once her marine ſhall be thoroughly reſtored, ſhe may paſs for one of the moſt formidable powers in Europe.

But it cannot be ſuppoſed that this is the conſequence of her connection with France; on the contrary, the real ſtrength, grandeur, and proſperity of the Spaniſh crown, muſt be the work of peace alone; and if ſhe continues to follow a contrary courſe, it cannot be long before ſhe is totally undone. For ſuch muſt be the fate, ſooner or later, of all nations that are abſolutely bent upon purſuing meaſures diametrically oppoſite to their own intereſt.

After the making of the late peace, it was for a long time the general opinion, that the Spaniſh miniſters (notwithſtanding our affairs were a little perplexed with that crown) had ſuch true notions of their own intereſt, as to be perſuaded that nothing

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concerned them more than to live upon good terms with Great Britain. Without doubt it was our intereſt likewiſe to live in a perfect correſpondence with that court.

It has, however, proved impracticable to keep any longer good terms with Spain, which (notwithſtanding the truly equitable and wiſe conduct of the court of Great Britain) has demonſtrated herſelf to have the moſt hoſtile intentions againſt us.

Unfortunately upon this, war has been declared againſt Spain, which will, no doubt, at this time be attended with many inconveniences to the nation. The loſs of our trade to that kingdom, which was certainly one of the moſt valuable branches of our commerce; the probable loſs, likewiſe, of our trade to Portugal, which there is too much reaſon to fear; with the hardſhips and diſtreſs it will bring upon great part of the nation, ſufficiently demonſtrate the inconveniences that will attend it.

But, by the bleſſing of God upon our arms, and the juſtice of our cauſe, let us hope that we ſhall be enabled once more to defeat the ambitious deſigns which have formed againſt us a powerful union between two branches of the Houſe of Bourbon.

AN

ACCOUNT

OF THE

Principal Sea Port Towns, &c.

IN SPAIN.

Taken from the beſt Authorities.

ALICANT, a city of the province of Valencia, has a good ſea-port, fortified with fine baſtions; its caſtle ſtands very high, and this town is famous for its red and white wine, particularly the red. Meal, and every other neceſſary of life, is here very good. In the year 1706 it was taken by the Engliſh, but in 1708 recovered again by the Spaniards, who, in the year 1709, retook alſo the ſtrong caſtles. It exports ſoap, wine, and anniſeed. Along the coaſt are ſeveral towers, where a watch is continually kept againſt the corſairs. It is ſituated in W. long. 30 min. lat. 38. 35. and is diſtant 60 miles S. from Valencia, and about 210 from Madrid.

Almacaron is a large ſea-port, in the province of Murcia, at the mouth of the river Guadalantin, having ſome mines of

of alum, which bring in a large revenue to the Duke de Eſcalona, and the Marquis de Vela. It ſtands in W. long. 1. 15. lat. 37. 40. and 18 miles S. W. of Carthagena.

Almeria is a city of the province of Granada, long. 1. 50. lat. 36. 57. lying on a bay, with a little river running into it. The country about it is very plentiful, particularly in fruits and oil. It has a very ſafe and pleaſant harbour, and not far from hence the land projects ſouth-eaſtward into the ſea, and forms a cape, by the ancients called Charideme, by the moderns Cabo de Gates.—This city was formerly in a much more flouriſhing ſtate than it is at preſent, it having now no more than 600 houſes, and them not extraordinary. Its walls, which are waſhed by the ſea, are reckoned about three miles in circumference, and it ſtands about 210 miles S. E. from Madrid, 64 S. E. from Granada, and 75 S. W. from Murcia.

Ayamonte, a town ſituated at the mouth of the Guadiana, in the province of Andaluſia, having a commodious harbour; it produces an excellent kind of wine, but not ſtrong, and gives the title of Marquis to the families of Zuriga and Guzman.

It ſtands W. long. 8. 5. lat. 37. 100 miles W. of Seville, and 85 N. W. of Cadiz.

Barcelona, the capital of Catalonia, and the reſidence of a governor, is a large well fortified ſea-port, divided into the Old and New Town. Moſt of the ſtreets are broad, well paved, and clean; it has many fine and ſtately houſes, a large and magnificent cathedral, with ſome other beautiful churches and convents, and handſome ſquares. Here is alſo an univerſity, an academy of arts and ſciences, founded in the year 1752, a court of inquiſition, and an *audientia real de Catalunna*, in which, next to the governor and captain-general, preſides the judge-regent. The other members are ten counſellors, five criminal officers, and two fiſcals. Its trade being conſiderable, it has alſo a ſpacious, deep, and ſafe harbour, one ſide of which is defended by a large mole, and at the end of it is a light houſe, and a ſmall fort with a garriſon; the other ſide of the harbour is covered by the caſtle of Monjouy, betwixt which runs a line of communication, and on it is a ſtrong fort, commanding the entrance into the harbour. In the year 1753 the king ordered five other forts to be erected on this mountain. The city till 1162 had counts of its own; but that year it

it united to Arragon, in 1640; it revolted from Spain to the French, but in the year 1652 was again recovered by the Spaniards; in 1691 and 1697 it was beſieged by the French, and in the laſt year taken, but reſtored again at the peace of Ryſwick. King Charles III. made himſelf maſter of it in 1744. It ſurrendered to Philip V. after a very obſtinate defence.—This city ſtands 300 miles E. of Madrid, 140 E. of Saragoſſa, and 180 N. E. of Valencia, E. long. 2. lat. 41. 20.

Betanzos, a town and ſea-port in the province of Galicia, is ſeated on a plain in the bay of the ſea, northward of Corunna, between the rivers Maudes and Caſcas, 35 miles N. E. of Compoſtella, and 20 S. of Ferrol, W. long. 8. 50. lat. 43. 15. It is only ſurrounded by a wall, has five gates, two pariſhes, and about one thouſand families.

Bilboa, a town in Biſcaya, the capital of the province, ſtands 66 miles N. E. of Burgos, 60 W. of St. Sebaſtian, and 200 N. E. of Madrid, W. long. 3. lat. 43. 20. It lies in a plain environed by high mountains: the ſea tide, which flows here into the river Ibaicabal, forms a ſecure harbour, which is very much frequented: the city

is pleaſantly ſituated, enjoys a good air, ſtands in a fruitful country, is well built, and drives a great trade in iron, wool, ſaffron, and cheſnuts. Proviſions alſo are here cheap and plenty. It is both a large and populous town, containing no leſs than 1200 houſes; and is a place of great trade, on account of its good harbour, ſmall veſſels coming up to the mole, and larger ſhips lying out further.

Cadiz, a noted trading city, in the province of Andaluſia, ſtanding on an iſland on the N. W. end of a long miſhapen neck of land, extending itſelf from S. E. to N. W. the weſtern part of which is called Cadiz, but the S. E. the iſland of Leon. It is joined alſo to the continent, (from which it is divided by a narrow canal, or arm of the ſea) by means of the bridge of Suaco, both ends of which are defended with redoubts, and ſome other raiſed works of earth. This iſland, from Fort St. Catalina to the iſland of St. Petro, is above five Spaniſh miles long; and from the S. point, near the iſland of St. Petro, to the northern one, near the bridge of Suaco, almoſt two in breadth. It produces very little grain; but ſome of the beſt wine in Spain is made here. It has alſo ſome paſtures; and on the ſide next the harbour, a

great

great deal of ſalt is made. The fiſhery likewiſe is conſiderable, particularly that of tunnies, which are commonly here between ſix and eight, and frequently ten feet in length. The neck of land projecting from the iſland, which is in ſome meaſure quadrangular, is at its beginning very narrow, but widens with ſeveral inflexions, or angles, terminating at laſt in two capes, the principal and weſtern of which is called Punta de St. Sebaſtiano.

The city of Cadiz is of pretty large circumference; yet is not the whole of this neck of land built upon the delightful W. ſide, called Sancto Compo, or the Church-Yard, being uninhabited, excepting that it has a ſpacious hoſpital, and two chapels, not being ſo commodious for ſhipping as the E. ſide. The greater part of the ſtreets are narrow, crooked, ill-paved, and dirty; but a few of them are broad, ſtrait, and well paved. The houſes are moſtly between three and four ſtories high, being built with a quadrangular area, and many are really fine and ſtately. Houſe rent and proviſions, in general, are dear here, and good water is very ſcarce. It is reckoned to contain thirteen convents; among which the college of the Jeſuits is the fineſt in all Andaluſia; but has only one pariſh church, which is the cathedral, though the ſet-

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tled inhabitants here are computed at forty thouſand. Here is the *Audientia real de la contratation a las Indias*, or the company trading to the Indies, which was removed hither in 1717, from Seville. It was, indeed, at the earneſt requeſt of the city of Seville, reſtored to it again in 1725; but in 1726, was the ſecond time brought back to Cadiz. Both before and after the arrival of the Spaniſh American flota, this city is crowded with ſtrangers, to the number it is ſaid of fifty thouſand, who reſort hither on account of trade, which cauſes an extraordinary circulation of money with all its gay concomitants.

Cadiz is the centre of the whole American trade, to which the French, Engliſh, Dutch, and Italian merchants ſend their goods, which are ſhipped off in Spaniſh bottoms to America, under the names of Spaniſh factors: beſides theſe nations, all others who carry on a traffic by ſea have alſo their agents, correſpondents, and factors here; and the conſuls of thoſe nations make a conſiderable figure. In this place none thrive better than the merchants, who ſeldom riſk their own ſubſtance, but enrich themſelves at the charge of thoſe who remit them their effects, whence, whatever happens, they are no loſers. The Spaniſh goods exported from Cadiz to America are of no great value.

The

The duty on foreign merchandize ſent hither would yield a vaſt revenue, and conſequently the profits of merchants and their agents would ſink, without many fraudulent practices for eluding the duties. Both the harbour and bay of Cadiz are ſecure and ſpacious, the entrance being defended by fort Matogorda, and by fort Puntal, ſtanding oppoſite to it on a point of that neck of land on which Cadiz is built; the Spaniards uſually call both forts *Los Puntales.* The entrance into the harbour between theſe forts, and the points on which they ſtand, is reckoned by Labat to be five hundred fathoms wide. During the time of ebb, a good part of the harbour, which is ten French miles in circumference, is dry. The outer and furthermoſt bay, which begins between Rota and St. Sebaſtian, and extends itſelf to Puerto de St. Maria, is divided into two parts by the rocks of los Pueros and Diamante. Cadiz is fortified with walls and irregular baſtions, according as the land admitted them. On the ſouth ſide, there is no approaching it on account of the high and ſteep ſhore; on the north ſide too the acceſs is dangerous, by reaſon of many ſand-banks and rocks which lie under water; the ſouth-weſt ſide indeed admits of

landing, but is defended by fort St. Catilina; on the ſouth ſouth-weſt point is a ridge of rocks, part of which at full ſea is covered with water. The outermoſt is a ſmall iſland on which is a guard and light-houſe with two chapels, and here alſo ſtands St. Sebaſtian. The city therefore can only be attacked at the narroweſt part of the neck of land lying betwixt it and the ſouth-eaſt part of the iſland of Leon, which is alſo fortified; ſo that an attack on any ſide of it would be very difficult. This city ſtands in W. long. 6. 40. lat. 36. 30. and is 270 miles S. W. of Madrid, ſixty S. W. of Seville, and forty N. W. of Gibraltar.

Corunna, a town of Galicia, in W. long. 9. lat. 43. 10. thirty miles N. of Compoſtella, and ſixteen of Ferrol, anciently Brigantium, ſtands on a ſmall peninſula in a ſmall bay, being divided into the upper and lower town; the former lies on a hill, and is defended by fort St. Diego; the latter is called by the inhabitants Pexaria, and lies at the foot of the mountain, on a point of land which is ſurrounded with water; on three ſides it reſembles in form a half-moon, having a caſtle at each end, one of which is called

St. Martin, and the other St. Clare; but others give them the names of St. Anthony and St. Croiz. It has a ſpacious harbour, and is the ſeat of the *Audientia real* of Galicia; here is alſo a collegiate church, and in its neighbourhood a valuable quarry of jaſper. This town is commonly known in England by the name of the Groyne, and is the place at which all our diſpatches for Spain arrive.

Carthagena is a city in the province of Murcia, W. long. 50 min. lat. 37. 40. it ſtands on a bay where there is a caſtle; but it is greatly declined from its grandeur, though its harbour is one of the ſafeſt in all Spain, being well ſheltered from the ſtorms by the ſmall iſland of Eſcombrada. The bay abounds ſo plentifully with mackerel, that the little iſland at the entrance of the harbour is thence called Scumbraria. Diamonds, rubies, amethiſts, and other gems are found here; but particularly many mines of allum. It is ſeated on the ſide of a hill on the Mediterranean coaſt, at the mouth of the river Guadalantin, contains about 1200 inhabitants, and is diſtant 86 miles E. from Granada, and 220 S. E. from Madrid.

The air here is ſo temperate in ſummer and mild in winter, that the trees are every where covered with leaves, bloſſoms, and fruit: and even roſes blow as freſh and ſweet at Chriſtmas as with us in June.

Ferrol, on the Bay of Biſcay, W. long. 8. 40. lat. 43. 30. a port town and very good harbour, where the Spaniſh ſquadron frequently ſecured themſelves in the laſt war; and where their privateers carried in many Engliſh prizes.

Fuentarabia is a little neat town on the Bay of Biſcay, twenty miles W. of Bayonne, fortified both by nature and art; it has a fortreſs ſtands like an amphitheatre on a hill, having alſo a pretty good harbour, and being towards the land environed by the Pyrenees, which are here called the Sieras de Jaſquivel. In 1638, it held out a ſiege againſt the French, for which the king honoured it with the title of a Cirdad; but in 1719, it was taken by them. Near the city runs the broad river Bidaſſoa or Vidaſſo, which is here very broad, and is the boundary between Spain and France; being alſo, by virtue of an agreement between Ferdinand the Catholic, and Lewis XII. the property of both crowns; ſo that the

the fare paid here by paſſengers is divided among theſe two nations; the Spaniards taking of thoſe who croſs out of France to their ſide, and the French again from ſuch as paſs out of Spain to them. The mouth of this river is a little below the town.

Gardamar is a little ſea-port at the mouth of the Segura, famous for its exportation of ſalt.

Laredo, a little town in Old Caſtile, ſeated on a riſing ground environed on all ſides with rocks; the harbour below it is very commodious. Great quantities of ſalt fiſh are exported from here. It ſtands in W. long. 3. 40. lat. 33. 40. and 30 miles W. of Bilboa.

Malaga is an ancient fortified ſea port in the province of Granada at the foot of of a ſteep mountain; well built, populous and having an harbour ſuitable to its extenſive commerce. The chief exports of this place, are wool, olives, oil, raiſins, ſack, and other wines; the duty of which yield the revenue of Spain 800000 ducats annually. It is defended by two caſtles, viz. Gillalfarro, which is ſeated upon a hill, and Al-

Alcazzava, lying below it. It is alſo a biſhopric in the province of Seville, and worth twenty thouſand ducats a year. Cloſe by the city runs the little river Gaudalquivirejo. The Phœnicians were the firſt who built a town in thoſe parts, calling it Malacha or Malaca, from their great ſale of fiſh here. Not far from this town, in the year 1704, an obſtinate engagement was fought between the Engliſh and Spaniſh fleets, to the diſadvantage of the latter. It is ſituated in W. long. 4. 4. lat. 36. 46. is diſtant 260 miles S. from Madrid, 75 S. E. from Seville, 66 N. E. of Gibraltar.

Matagorda, a fort on a neck of land directly oppoſite to Puntal, covers the harbour and bay of Cadiz. Near it alſo, to the eaſt, lies a ſmall iſland on which a fort is erected, and higher up on the main land, ſtands the ſmall town of Puertol-real, on a bay, in which are magazines.

Noya, a ſmall town of Galicia, on a bay into which iſſues the river Tambra, it ſtands in a fruitful plain, and is noted for its ſhip-building; it is fifteen miles W. of Compoſtella, W. long. 9. 47. lat. 42. 50.

Pelos,

Palamos, in the province of Catalonia, is a little fortified town on a bay, which forms a good harbour; it ſtands partly on a level, and partly on an eminence, projecting into the ſea. Beſides its fortifications, it has alſo a citadel. At a ſmall diſtance from it lies cape Palafugel, ſo named from a ſmall neighbouring town. It ſtands in E. long. 2. 40. lat. 41. 50. ſixty miles N. E. from Barcelona.

Pelos, a little town ſituated at the mouth of the Trino, in which the tide forms a tolerable harbour; from this place it was, that Chriſtopher Columbus in the year 1492, ſet ſail on the diſcovery of the new world.

Peniſcola, a ſmall town of Valencia, in the Mediterranean, ſituated on a high promontory called Cabo Forbat, is environed on three ſides by the ſea; and the difficulty of acceſs on the land ſide, renders it a place of great ſtrength. It is fifty miles N. of Valencia.

Port Paſſage is a ſpacious excellent harbour, with a narrow entrance, and ſheltered by mountains from all winds; in 1719, this place alſo was taken by the French.

Riba-

Ribadeo is a ſmall town in the province of Galicia, ſeated on a rock at the mouth of a river of the ſame name, which makes it a good and ſecure harbour. This place gives the title of count, to the duke of Herzoge.

Raſes, a town in Catalonia, 60 miles N. E. of Barcelona, E. long. 2. 45. lat. 42. 22, ſtands on a bay, is ſtrong, and has a good harbour guarded by a fort; this is the only place which continued firm to Philip V. It owes its original to the ruins of the town of Rhada, which ſtood a little way off, near Cape Cruz.

San Sebaſtian, a town of Guipuſcoa, in the Bay of Biſcay, of conſiderable bigneſs, having a ſecure harbour at the mouth of the little river Gurumea, by the ancients called Menaſcum. It is ſeated at the foot of a mountain, which ſerves as a defence to it againſt the tempeſtuous ſea. The harbour lies between two redoubts, between which only one ſhip can paſs at a time. Near its entrance alſo is a fort, with a garriſon in it, to prevent any ſurpriſe. The town is ſurrounded with walls, beſides which, it is defended with baſtions and halfmoons, and on the mountain under which it lies is a citadel. The ſtreets

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are long, broad, ſtraight, and clean; the houſes neat and the churches fine. It enjoys a delightful proſpect, having on one ſide the ſea, and on the other a diſtant view of the Pyrenean mountains. A conſiderable trade is carried on in this place, particularly in iron, ſteel, and wool. In the year 1728 a company was ſet up here, which trades in cacao to the Caraccas; in 1719 the French made themſelves maſters of this town. It ſtands in W. long. 1. 50. lat. 43. 35, 55 miles E. of Bilboa, and 25 S. W. of Bayonne.

St. Andero, in the province of Old Caſtile, on the Bay of Biſcay, is a ſmall, ancient, and fortified ſea-port, at the foot of a hill, ſeated in a pleaſant country, which abounds with fine fruits and wine, having a large, ſecure, and well fortified harbour, but at its entrance a dangerous rock, called Pennade Mogron. Its ſuburbs are almoſt wholly inhabited by fiſhermen, whoſe trade here turns to very good account; the neighbouring ſea abounds in good fiſh, and the Spaniards build and lay up ſome men of war here.—It is 60 miles W. of Bilboa, and 80 N. of Burgos, in W. long. 4. 30. lat. 43. 20.

St. Lucar, a well-built town, having a good harbour, at the mouth of the Guadalquivir, 45 miles below Seville. It lies on a hill. The harbour is difficult of acceſs, on account of a rock under water, but is defended by two batteries, and in the road a whole fleet may ride with ſafety. The town declines daily, and its principal trade is in ſalt.

St. Mary, the capital of an earldom belonging to the Duke of Medina Celi, enjoys a flouriſhing trade, and lies at the mouth of the river Guadalite, directly oppoſite Cadiz, whither we go from hence by ſhipping, and it exceeds that city in bigneſs; the ſtreets alſo are broader and better paved, and the houſes handſomer; but yet it contains ſcarce eight thouſand inhabitants. It is only walled round, and the little caſtle which it has, inſtead of a citadel, is but of ſmall force. Here are great numbers of French, Engliſh, Dutch, Genoeſe, and other merchants: in it are alſo made vaſt quantities of ſalt. Its harbour too is the rendezvous of ſome of the Spaniſh gallies. In the year 1702 the Engliſh and Dutch made themſelves maſters of this place, without any oppoſition. Beneath port St. Mary's, on a point of land

land ſtretching into Cadiz bay, ſtands a tower and a battery, called St. Catalina.

Salobregna is a ſmall town on the Mediterranean coaſt, ſeated on a high rock by the ſea, with a ſtrong caſtle, where formerly the Mooriſh kings kept their treaſure. It carries on a good trade in fiſh and ſugar.

Santogna and Guarniſo are two places, the chief occupation of whoſe inhabitants is ſhip building. In theſe parts are alſo caſt iron cannon.

Tarragona, in the province of Catalonia, is an old fortified town, ſituate on an eminence near the ſea, at the mouth of the little river Francoli. It was formerly much larger, more opulent, and more populous than at preſent. The univerſity here was founded in the year 1532 : it has a good trade, and an harbour ; but the latter, on account of its many rocks, is impracticable for ſhips of burthen. The neighbouring country produces corn, oil, flax, and very good wine ; and both within and without the city are to be ſeen many antiquities. In 1705, it ſubmitted to the Engliſh and Dutch forces, but was re-

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ſtored to the late king Philip by the peace of Utrecht. It is about 50 miles S. W. of Barcelona, and about 45 E. of Tortoſa, in E. lon. 1. 15. lat. 41. 6.

Tortoſa is an ancient, fortified, and large city of the province of Catalonia, ſituated on the river Ebro, over which it has a bridge of boats. The avenue to it is defended by two baſtions, and other outworks. It lies partly on a level ground, and partly on a hill, being divided into the Old and New Town, of which the former is the largeſt. The ancient ſtrong caſtle with which, beſides other fortifications, it is defended, ſtands on an eminence betwixt it and the Old Town, being built in form of a citadel. Here are many churches and convents. Its univerſity is conſiderable, and the adjacent country abounds in grain and fruits. It produces alſo ſilk and oil, and makes a pretty kind of earthen ware. Near it are ſome mines and fine quarries of ſtone. The Ebro being navigable is a great conveniency to the trade of this city. It is 90 miles S. W. of Barcelona. E. lon. 14 min. lat. 45.

Valencia, which is the capital of the province of that name, lies on the river

Gaudalaviar, in a very pleaſant and fertile country, being a large and beautiful city, defended with ſome fortifications. It is very populous, being inhabited both by merchants and perſons of rank; the former of whom carry on a conſiderable trade here. The chief export from this place is almonds. The form of this city is almoſt round, ſurrounded with an ancient ſtout wall, adorned with many ſtately towers, and thirteen gates, it being 6440 paces in circumference. Its ſea-port, which ſtands on the Mediterranean, near two miles from the city, furniſhes it with every neceſſary. It is 180 miles S. E. of Madrid, in E. lon. 14 min. N. lat. 39. 20.

Vigo, a town of Galicia, 70 miles S. E. of Cape Finiſterre, W. lon. 9. 18. lat. 42. 15. ſeated on a ſmall bay, having a fort on an eminence, but not capable of any long reſiſtance. It has alſo an old caſtle, and ſtands in a very fruitful country. In the year 1702, the Engliſh and Dutch fleets forced their paſſage in, and made themſelves maſters of the Spaniſh Plate fleet, when juſt returned from America. In the year 1719, the Engliſh again got poſſeſſion of this place, but relinquiſhed it after raiſing contributions.

Villa

Villa Vicioſa is a town of New Caſtile, 47 miles N. E. of Madrid, W. lon. 3. 20. lat. 40. 50. ſeated on a bay, forming a good harbour, into which the river Aſta empties itſelf. It is defended by a good wall, and three ſtrong towers.

FINIS.